

G20-MOES

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G20 - Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG)



The fourth meeting of the RIIG was held on 19-20 April 2023 in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. The meeting focussed on the third priority area under the RIIG **"Eco-Innovations for Energy Transition"**: Over 29 International delegates from G20 member countries, invited countries and international organisations and 30 Indian experts and invitees from various scientific departments and organisations of the Government of India participated in the meeting.

OPENING REMARKS

BY SHRI SRIVARI CHANDRASEKHAR



Department of Science and Technology Secretary Shri Srivari Chandrasekhar delivered the opening remarks wherein he highlighted the urgent need to transition away from fossil fuel consumption to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and arrest climate change. He stressed on, **"the potential for harnessing renewable energies is great enough to meet our requirements but capturing, converting and storing them on a large scale requires a monumental effort which can be accomplished by working together"**.

As we continue the transition away from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy to mitigate global carbon emissions, technological innovations, particularly those that incorporate ecological or nature-based solutions, will become increasingly significant. During the meeting, G20 members deliberated upon topics such as smart energy transformations, renewable energy storage and management, mission-driven research in sustainable energy transitions, policy frameworks for research and innovation in carbon-neutral energy sources, and enhanced cooperation among G20 members. The members also agreed to share technological innovations and best practices to enable the transition towards alternative fuels such as ethanol and green hydrogen.



Upcoming Fifth Meeting of the RIIG -18-19 May 2023, Diu

"Scientific Challenges and Opportunities for a Sustainable Blue Economy"



The fifth meeting of the RIIG will be coordinated by the Ministry of Earth Sciences on the theme "Scientific Challenges and Opportunities for a Sustainable Blue Economy" and is scheduled to be held in Diu on 18 and 19 May 2023. The global ocean and its resources hold tremendous potential for sustainable economic growth. On the other hand, the coastal and marine environment are facing serious challenges from accelerating impacts of climate change, growing marine pollution, and declining biodiversity. The fifth meeting of the RIIG aims to explore the role of science, technology, and innovation in addressing contemporary environmental threats to the ocean and sustainably utilizing the economic opportunities within the framework of a Blue Economy.

Upcoming Fifth Meeting of the RIIG -18-19 May 2023, Diu

The meeting will bring together Indian and international experts, scientists, policy-makers, and delegates from G20 members, to deliberate upon several key sub-themes related to the Blue Economy

✦ **Blue Economy Sectors and Opportunities**

✦ **Observation Data and Information Services**

✦ **Marine Ecosystems and Pollution**

✦ **Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning**

✦ **Marine Living Resources and Biodiversity**

✦ **Deep Sea Technology**

✦ **Blue Economy Policy Perspective**

Discussions held in Diu in May will also contribute to the formulation of the RIIG Ministers' Declaration which will be put up for adoption by the G20 at the RIIG Ministerial Summit which is scheduled to be held in Mumbai on 4-6 July 2023.



G20

Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)

"Promoting a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Blue Economy"

India's G20 Presidency has identified "Promoting a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Blue Economy" as a key priority area for the Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) under the Sherpa Track. Within this priority area, the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will be jointly organising the 'Ocean 20 Dialogue' in Mumbai on 21 May 2023 during the 3rd Meeting of the ECSWG (21-23 May, 2023). The dialogue will bring together international experts, innovators, community representatives, policymakers, and industry leaders, to facilitate discussions on aspects related to emerging science, technology and innovation, challenges associated with effective and inclusive policy and governance, and establishing finance mechanisms to support national and regional Blue Economy endeavours.

OCEAN 20 DIALOGUE

The Ocean 20 Dialogue also aims to further progress the conversations on the key challenges and opportunities initiated during the Ocean 20 launch event in Bali in 2022 under Indonesia's G20 Presidency and establish the ocean and Blue Economy as recurring agenda items in the G20 forum. The Dialogue will be preceded by a synchronised Mega Beach Clean Up activity to raise awareness about the growing problem of coastal and marine pollution and promote robust community engagement in tackling environmental issues. The Mega Beach Clean Up will be conducted across all coastal states and union territories of India, as also in several G20 member countries that have enthusiastically volunteered to participate.

The Ocean 20 Dialogue will be followed by technical sessions furthering the discussions on the three priority areas of arresting land degradation, encouraging resource efficiency and circular economy, and promoting a sustainable and climate resilient blue economy. Under the Blue Economy theme, the Presidency will present the findings of the Technical Study on "**Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Blue Economy**" and "**the G20 High-Level Principles for a Sustainable and Resilient Blue Economy**" will be formalised through negotiations with the G20 countries.





Mega Beach Clean Up

At Juhu Beach and other coastal locations across states

On May 21, 2023 from 7 AM to 9AM



A collaborative effort by
**Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate
Change and Ministry of Earth Sciences,
Government of India and State Governments/
Union Territory Administrations**

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